APOLLO 12 - EVENING NEWS REPORTS (NOVEMBER 1969)

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From November 1969, CBS, NBC and ABC News evening news reports on the Apollo 12 mission.

Apollo 12 Crew:

Commander: Charles "Pete" Conrad Jr.
Command Module Pilot: Richard F. Gordon Jr.

Lunar Module Pilot : Alan L. Bean

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apollo 12's mechanical problems have been solved and the moon launch is low for tomorrow on schedule president nixon makes an extraordinary visit to the congress and thanks members of both parties who support him on the war demonstrators who oppose mr nixon on the war begin with the picture and vice president agnew makes a speech about the men responsible for network television news howard reports tonight from tom jarrell on the president's surprise visit to the capitol bob clark on the presidential address to the senate sam donaldson on the anti-war protests now underway frank mariano on a marine division whose fighting days in vietnam are over gregory jackson on five arrests in connection with those new york bombings and howard tucker on a morale booster for police in indianapolis frank today apollo 12 astronaut alan bean said we're ready to go when they are and they the men behind man's second flight to the moon are ready too yesterday a hitch developed that could have delayed the moon shot for a month a leaky hydrogen tank was discovered working around the clock technicians replaced it acceptance says the launch will go up on schedule at 11 22 a.m eastern time tomorrow here with a report on the men and the mission is abc science editor jules bergman apollo 12 begins here at pad 39 as the epic journey of apollo 11 did and if there's one thing that's clear it's this apollo 11 is a tough act to follow but no astronauts were ever better picked for a mission than pete conrad dick gordon and alan dean all navy commanders and all old friends and their 10-day flight is a brutal test of human endurance including seven hours or more of exploring the moon on foot spacecraft commander conrad 39 veteran of germany 5 and 11

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of germany 5 and 11 is funny friendly outspoken and hard as nails when he has to be so are gordon and bean unlike apollo 11 where it was enough just to land on the moon conrad and bean have to make a pinpoint landing trying to eliminate the four mile era armstrong and old one experienced if man is to really explore he has to be able to land exactly where he wants to conrad who's had more practice at landings than any other man is aiming to set down intrepid his lunar module as close as he can to the surveyor three spacecraft that landed two and a half years ago he and albin then planned to moonwalk over to severe during their second eva and remove and bring back its tv camera and other parts they first planned to land 1100 feet away now hope to touch down almost on the river's crater they have to land within 3000 feet or they won't have enough oxygen to safely get to surveyor and make it back to intrepid the major goal of the

mission is to deploy five scientific experiments that will radio back data on moonquakes solar winds and the moon's atmosphere for more than a year conrad and bean will also gather rock and soil samples and painstakingly photograph each step each sample to tell us more to see if this part of the moon differs from the sea of tranquility where the eagle landed they'll spend 32 hours on the movement and after they take off to rejoin dick gordon and the clipper the empty intrepid will then be sent smashing into the moon so as not to leave debris that might endanger future flights then one more day in lunar orbit filming future landing sites before heading home for a landing in the south pacific this is jules bergman abc news at cape kennedy abc will carry the launch of apollo 12 live beginning at 10 30 a.m eastern time tomorrow we'll be back with more news in a moment look for this label the leaky tank in

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look for this label the leaky tank in the apollo 12 rocket was replaced last night and the schedule now calls for a launch on time at 11 22 a.m eastern time tomorrow morning and it will of course be seen live on nbc television the three astronauts conrad cooper and d bean said they were ready to go if all goes is scheduled they'll be on the moon in the middle of next week sending back television pictures in living color just hours before three more americans are to be sent hurtling to the moon from this cape kennedy launch site the agency responsible has received the sharpest rebuke yet from scientists who continue to complain that their interests are being mostly ignored a presidential panel charged today that in effect nasa doesn't know enough to determine what role man could or should play in space exploration and won't make the effort to find out the panel headed by dr louis branston director of the bureau of standards says scientists have been trying for nine years to persuade nasa to learn more about man's ability to survive and function in space largely to no avail so the panel concludes it doesn't make sense to talk about two-year flights such as a trip to mars this is the latest evidence of a long smoldering dispute between scientists and engineers in recent months five top scientists have resigned from nasa and four of the scientists being trained as astronauts are no longer with that program they've had a common complaint too much emphasis on engineering or how to do things and not enough on science or what should be done and why publicly nasa says it's carrying out all the scientific experimenting it can reasonably and safely privately the agency doesn't seem perturbed one top nasa official discussing the exodus of scientists says he's not displeased to see some of the belief and strongly indicated that a few had been encouraged to resign well rain storms have been sweeping the cape throughout the day and more showers are forecast for tomorrow morning but the weathermen

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for tomorrow morning but the weathermen don't expect anything serious enough to delay the launch frank mcgee nbc news kate kennedy a piece of news that may not be important but it's a reflection of the times we live in for the second time in his history man sets forth for the moon tomorrow walter cronkite reports on the latest developments from the kennedy space center in florida [Music] tonight the launch crew appears to be winning its fight to send apollo 12 on its way to the moon tomorrow morning that small fuel tank which caused trouble yesterday was replaced today and ahead of schedule the weather forecast for tomorrow is cloudy with possible showers but space officials say that will be all right it's been raining most of the day is raining right now our color coverage of the launch begins with the cbs morning news at 7 00 a.m eastern time president nixon is coming down to watch this launch from today he announced that he is promoting the 43 year old former manager the apollo program george lowe to be deputy administrator of the civilian space agency that agency nasa was criticized sharply today by a white house panel of scientists their report accused nasa of ignoring for almost a decade expert on advice on ways to determine whether long-range manned space flight is feasible as a result the report said neither nasan or anyone else knows enough about man's ability to survive in space to talk now about months-long flights to distant places like mars getting back to the immediate future of space travel pete conrad the apollo 12 commander recently gave david shoemaker this answer is how it would feel to be a historical footnote as the third man on the moon well i think that's really great myself like anybody in the office i would have loved to have been the first man on the moon but i'm not sure that after i was the first man on the moon i would

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i was the first man on the moon i would want to have to suffer all the things that neil's going to have to suffer and buzz and mike for the rest of their lives and our business really is the flying end and i don't think any of us are here for the fame and glory and so i'm quite happy to have the second flight and like every flight in the program the next flight uh really is doing something more and different so there is no such thing as a bad flight anywhere in the program as far as we're concerned that's the way it is thursday november 13 1969 t minus one the subordinate cronkite cbs news kennedy space center good evening all of a sudden it was a heart stopper this launch of apollo 12 there was no show of the excitement to come and the way one event routinely followed another during the countdown this morning the main anticipation was the arrival of the first president of the united states to watch a space launch from the scene the first thing we saw this morning was the familiar steak and eggs breakfast for the crew mission commander pete conrad rookie astronaut alan beam and richard gordon the stay behind fellow who'll circle the moon while the other two land on its surface and here they are the astronauts as they have reached the white room level walk across that catwalk from the elevator to the white room itself first man in will be the commander pete conrad [Music] and rather uh i gather you're there at the kennedy space center there at helicopter side that's direct to walter and it's pretty drippy out here at the moment it's been raining for about the past 15 minutes uh everyone who has one has his umbrella out has his rainbow down as you see the president has his rainfall on mrs nixon uh is rain coatless although a secret serviceman is opening up an umbrella now for both mrs nixon and trisha nixon as they step

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mrs nixon and trisha nixon as they step off the helicopter coinciding with the president's arrival a rainstorm swept the area bringing the worst weather ever for a launch but the decision was go and shortly you will watch the launch as wally shara and i described it just after the saturn apollo disappeared into that low cloud cover lightning struck near the spacecraft although exactly how close is still being debated you'll see and hear conrad that is say a few seconds later that he has lost his inertial platform and the spacecraft power system has cut out ten nine eight ignition sequence start six five four three two one zero all engines running commit liftoff we have liftoff 11 22 a.m eastern standard time pete conrad reports that your program is in okay we just lost the platform gang i don't know what happened here we had everything in the world drop out roger a news conference after launch astronaut tom stafford described the emergency procedures taken by the spacecraft crew at the time when they lost the three fuel cells and the two ac buses in the spacecraft a lot of lights come on and the warning signs go off i think pete conrad and the whole crew should be really commended for keeping a cool head there and reacting just like they should since the our own instrument unit went out and started to spin on him however he was looking at the rate gyros as the backup instrument made his own analysis real fast and said let's press right on

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real fast and said let's press right on at that time then al bean was able to reset the fuel cells and uh but actually by the time that they got past staging they had the ac busters back on the line working one two three four i think this also brings out the point that when everything uh just went boom like that suddenly as far as the loss of power and all the other indications is an example of why we have experienced test pilots flying these vehicles president nixon watched the launch outside in the rain sometime later when everyone had caught his breath again the president visited launch control america the united states is first in space we're proud to be first in space we don't say that in any jingoistic way we say it because as americans we want to give the people of this country and particularly our young people the feeling that they're here is an area that we can concentrate for a positive goal concentrate and be proud of being americans be proud of what we have accomplished not only for ourselves but for future generations and for the whole world paul's calm now the spacecraft has left earth orbit is on its way to the moon well houston chris says he doesn't think you guys

are the same age as when you got up this morning either he is absolutely correct in fact i wish you guys plans that dse tape back tonight i kept thinking why is he saying that to me that's beautiful okay i say it always from a lights on i can't read them all to you this morning cronkite cbs news kennedy space center

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space center the flight continues smoothly but the astronauts scheduled an early special check of the lunar landing craft to make sure it wasn't damaged in the shake-up on liftoff [Music] expensive but welcome luxury in a land of austerity frank they're on their way to the moon the three astronauts of apollo 12 pete conrad richard gordon and alan bean president nixon was there to watch the launch this morning at cape kennedy despite bad weather apollo 12 got off the launch pad exactly on time but the mission was not without its moments of anxiety abc science editor jules bergman has the story from kate kennedy the weather forecast here at the cape called for occasional showers well there were showers all right heavy rain in fact more than just occasional showers and along with thousands of others the president got a little damp as he arrived at a special viewing area after his flight from washington but the weather did little to dampen the excitement as the moment of liftoff drew near do you have guidance internal 10 9 8 ignition sequence start 6 5 four three two one zero all engines running commit liftoff we have your workout 11 22 a.m eastern standard time [Music] liftoff that's not bad at all [Music] rules complete roger pete the awesome thundering of the saturn 5's engines was still reverberating throughout the entire spaceport when something went wrong the saturn 5 was hidden in the rain storm covering the cape when 35 seconds after liftoff pete conrad reported trouble okay we just lost the

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reported trouble okay we just lost the platform gang i don't know what happened here we had everything in the world drop out roger but the engines kept going and the flight path was beautiful conrad gordon and bean kept their cool and got all the systems working again and an early afternoon performed the critical engine burn heading themselves toward the moon one thing for sure it'll be a long time before another spacecraft is ever launched in a rainstorm as soon as apollo 12 was safely enormous the president made a brief tour of the kennedy state center at one point he addressed several hundred officials and engineers assembled in the launch control center we are going forward america the united states is first in space we're proud to be person space we don't say that in any jingoistic way we say it because as americans we want to give the people of this country and particularly our young people the feeling that they're here is an area that we can concentrate for a positive goal concentrate and be proud of being americans be proud of what we have accomplished not only for ourselves but for future generations and for the whole world and in that vein i simply want to say i'm proud of those three men up there i talked to them on the phone before they left and i'm just as proud of everybody in this room and the thousands across this country that made it possible later in the day apollo 12 gave us our first on-board television transmission here's part of it hey jared it's a fantastic site uh the mississippi valley has a little bit of cloud coverage coming down from canada and there's someone in the northeast part of the country up in new england states looks like maybe get some snow here in the next day or two the next major scheduled event is a critical engine burn tomorrow

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critical engine burn tomorrow a maneuver that gives them a better view of their lunar landing site but deprives them of safely swinging around the moon automatically should the engines fail also scheduled tomorrow another television transmission and so despite a slightly harrowing start pete conrad al bean and dick gordon are safely on their way to the moon tonight this is jules bergman abc news at cape kennedy i'm chad huntley nbc news three more americans are on their way to the moon navy commanders alan bean richard gordon and charles conrad and their apollo 12 command ship are in good shape in spite of a launch that was one of the more harrowing in the nine years of american manned space flights 45 seconds into the mission the spacecraft lost its main electric power it was thought at first that the rocket had been struck by lightning later space officials said static electricity had accumulated on the rocket's skin as it sped through

the rain clouds the crew suited up for the launch left their quarters shortly after eight o'clock they waved to space center workers and climbed aboard a special air-conditioned bus for the nine-mile ride to the launch pad they still weren't certain they were going a bad weather front lay over florida and it was raining but after they reached the pad the word came to go ahead the countdown came on schedule president nixon watched the liftoff t-minus 20 [Music] 17 seconds swing arm back we have guidance internal 10 9 8 ignition sequence start 6 5 4 3 two one zero all engines running commit liftoff we have liftoff 11 22 a.m eastern standard time

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eastern standard time pete conrad reports that your program is in roger peter we lost the platform gang i don't know what happened here we had everything in the world dropped out roger [Music] plus one fuel cell fuel cell disconnect [Music] try to reset your fuel cells out your thrust is looking good pete okay right your fuel cells look good down [Music] here [Music] [Applause] [Music] we've had a couple of cardiac arrests down here too peeps [Music] i leaned in the direction of the program before after hearing what they have had to say with regard to our future plans uh i must say that i lean even more in that direction announcements will be made in the future

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announcements will be made in the future as as as they have been made in the past as to the commitment of this nation to the program and i realize that within those in the program between scientists and engineers and others there are different attitudes as to what the emphasis should be whether we should emphasize more more exploration or more in taking the knowledge that we have already acquired and making practical applications of it all of these matters have been brought to my attention i can assure you every side is getting a hearing we want to have a balanced program but most important we are going forward the space people liked what the president said but some noted that while he sounded promising from their point of view which embraces a high level of space activity he made no commitments after apollo 11 last july vice president agnew made a very encouraging speech to the same group he mentioned to mars flight but that after all was not the president speaking now the livelihood of these people depends on space and though they are engineers and technicians seemingly impervious to the ordinary doubts and fears they are people consequently they battle superstition like the rest of us and there had been a feeling here at the cape hard to explain but even harder to deny that if anything was going wrong it would be with this flight perhaps because of an emotional let down after the first moon landing people felt they weren't working for the same perfection perhaps because a good number of top engineers have already been let go in a cutback of personnel for whatever reason the feeling persisted until a couple of weeks ago and then it changed and the only thing that went wrong with this launching cannot be charged against them lightning static electricity whatever it was it was not their fault and the flight is fine frank mcgee nbc news kate kennedy like sailors of the sky the apollo 12 astronauts awoke from a nine-hour rest period today held now by the grip of lunar gravity they're awaiting a critical rocket

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they're awaiting a critical rocket firing that will slow their speed and set them into orbit around the moon before their scheduled landing very early wednesday morning earlier pete conrad gave the striking view of how it feels to go through the tunnel from the command module to the moonship why don't i just go pretty easy view of the main panels upside down we've discovered an interesting thing while we're in here the other day uh the aop looks right into the command module and i was looking out to see what i could see and i saw this face looking [Music] he is 81 years old apollo 12 and its crew are on their way to becoming a satellite of the moon tonight the spacecraft is now under the influence of lunar gravity less than 20 000 miles from the moon astronauts conrad gordon and bean spent most of the day sleeping getting set for their moon landing this week when they'll work during our night a late report now from abc science editor jules bergman while america slept early today the night people of apollo 12 pete conrad dick gordon and albin were

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pete conrad dick gordon and albin were hard at work checking out intrepid their lunar module and they showed it to us live nearly 200 000 miles out from earth the hatch of the tunnel linking the two spacecraft was lifted out then the docking probe was removed by dick gordon in earth weight they're almost too heavy to lift here they just floated away as spacecraft commander pete conrad himself floated up into the lunar module and found his intrepid in perfect condition then al bean sent the checklist floating up the tunnel to pete conrad 15 feet away weightless in space floating upside down in the lunar module there was no difference between right side up and upside down the tv camera itself was handed up and conrad then took us on a tour showing us intrepid's instrument panel and the backpacks that'll cool conrad and bean on the moon and supply them their oxygen now the limbs forward window notched with the scribe marks that will show conrad his landing area near the surveyor 3 spacecraft the moon 25 000 miles off swinging the camera around to the opposite apollo window a smaller planet 200 000 miles away the earth itself looking the way the moon looks to us from earth and pete conrad with this report we've enjoyed doing this world all three of us are good spirits are feeling great i'll tell you one thing we do miss the good people back home tonight the astronauts fire up their on-board engines slowing themselves falling into orbit around the moon before their landing wednesday this is jules bergman abc news reporting we'll be back in a moment abc news chicago apollo 12 continued on its way toward the moon today only now it is being pulled along by the moon's gravity tonight on the far side of the moon and out of contact with the earth the astronauts will fire their engine to get into orbit around the moon astronauts bean conrad and gordon broadcast television pictures again

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broadcast television pictures again today while clearing the passage from the command ship into the lunar landing vehicle sounds like a handling empty milk cans up all right okay 12 the lighting in the tunnel looks pretty good now [Music] i'll tell you one thing we do miss the good people back home as uh we've talked about with the geologists and some of this is volcanic action in here okay now we can see a crater just to the left of the screen there that rather poorly defined and there appears to be a good sized rail or fracture running across the floor

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[Music] can you see the straight wall now in houston yes sir we can see it very good just beyond this uh large crater with another uh smaller crater in its rim and we can see the wall on beyond there [Music] and let me see if i can get it better for you there it is all right we have a nice crack right down at the bottom you know i'll go back and give you your eyes because that's one of the most impressive things right here take a look at those mountains some of those mountains we talked about earlier that looks like from a distance like little clouds over the bar you can see how bright they are relative to the bright surface and maybe even on the tv they look like clouds

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clouds however they're not they look like pretty hard rocks out there but i understand they are not clouds down there but i understand they are not clouds let me show you some of these clouds i think you'll like them they just seem to be large folks on top of the barn there impressive this fight only a matter of hours now before the apollo 12 astronauts achieved man's second landing on the moon the only problems the reappearance of what's described as a moderate solar flare and a touch of head congestion that's been bothering al bean decongestant pills seem to be taking care of that and the space agency spokesman say the solar flare is not expected to harm the astronauts at worst it might interfere with communications the lunar module intrepid should land on the moon shortly before 2 am eastern time abc news will bring you live coverage of the moon landing our broadcast begins at 1am eastern time and a live color telecast from the moon surface will be carried from 5 am until 10 a.m eastern time tomorrow morning when astronauts bean and conrad walk on the moon a long struggle ended today and uh looked down at a crater i don't know here so i don't know the name of it but it's got extremely well-defined walls it's got a nice central peak in the middle and let me see if i can get it better for you there it is all right we have a

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nice crack right down at the bottom over the apollo 12 lunar landing will be carried by nbc news beginning at 1am eastern standard time tonight or technically tomorrow morning good evening the apollo 12 moonwalkers are in a rest period now before their scheduled second stroll early tomorrow morning it's only the second time in human history man has reached the moon but world reaction was interested not wildly enthusiastic something quite normal for america according to a student in warsaw but it wasn't normal not for anyone the first moonship apollo 11 missed its landing site by four miles and nobody cared very much but apollo 12 was designed for a pinpoint landing within walking distance of the old surveyor spacecraft that's been sitting in a crater since 1967 so the descent of apollo 12 began with the very gentlest of undockings okay i i got uh minus uh i got minus one and uh nothing so forget it ends up in houston looks good

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how's it real good dick real good okay okay hey cut that out to me roger go out unlike apollo 11 the lunar module did not gyrate about the sky letting the command module pilot look it over all maneuvers were performed by the command ship whose position since it remained in orbit was less critical as the two ships drifted around the edge of the moon together command module pilot richard gordon dove his vessel away from the lunar module giving conrad and bean a clear run to the moon then out of sight of earth conrad fired the descent engine and headed down an hour later conrad and bean began the last few thousand feet of their descent they sounded something like a baseball picture catcher combination as co-pilot b not only read off instrument readings but kept up an encouraging chatter to conrad at the controls conrad spotted his target as the touchdown is described by walter cronkite and former astronaut wally shiraz hey there it is you're looking good at fifteen percent fuel already said no right you're not looking down going forward i just want lcd to the right level 40 degrees i can't believe it okay

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he's got it made come on in there 24 feet contact light roger copy contacts beautiful okay five feet closer but what an exciting approach and what an excited crew as they find themselves going right down the road as he said right where they want to see that sets a testimonial to improve data from one flight to the next and what an important thing this is for future flights because this is the flight that was to prove out so far there's been only one major failure of the apollo 12 mission their little television camera like this some seventy eight thousand dollars worth stopped working about 40 minutes into the moonwalk apparently astronaut being inadvertently aimed at the sun burning out its picture too before that it sent excellent color pictures a

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it sent excellent color pictures a quarter of a million miles back to earth even after conrad at one point turned it upside down we begin with his descent from the moon ship to the moon [Music] okay okay along with he's recalling neil armstrong's remark about a small one giant step for a mankind it's with a harder step for him possibly because he's six inches shorter than armstrong doing that at all now you really gotta like yourself down here he's removing the thermal cover from the mesa this is where he's having a little trouble keeping the camera

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trouble keeping the camera right side up right as now scheduled cbs news live coverage of tomorrow's man on the moon activities will begin shortly after midnight eastern time well man has done it again the apollo 12 astronauts pete conrad and alan bean are taking a well-deserved rest right now aboard their lunar module intrepid which is parked neatly on the moon's ocean of storms everything about the moon landing during the night was spectacularly successful except that the color television camera which allowed us to watch the

astronauts stopped working after a very short time abc science editor jules bergman has the full report beginning with the sounds of the actual moon landing he's got it made everyone in there 2014 contact lights roger copy contacts outstanding [Applause] it was an astonishing pinpoint landing

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it was an astonishing pinpoint landing with pete conrad al bean in their onboard computer guiding intrepid down to less than 600 feet from the surveyor three spacecraft that was their major target hours later conrad emerged first to begin his four-hour long moon walk and the color tv camera worked perfectly it pictured conrad stepping onto the moon and true to form conrad kitted himself and neil armstrong the first man to set foot on the moon and that may have been us the first tv pictures were excellent but as al bean placed the camera on a tripod he inadvertently let too much sunlight hit the lens and the sensitive television tube burned out leaving both mission control and millions of anxious people without a view of the astronauts as they began their real work the two astronauts then deployed the lunar surface experiment package more than 500 feet from the lamb to send back scientific data on moonquakes ballooner magnetic atmospheric and ion fields later tonight they emerge again in their moonwalk to examine surveyor 3 which has been on the moon more than two and a half years last week at cape kennedy i filmed this preview of what the astronauts hoped to do with surveyor early tomorrow using this full-scale mock-up of the 650-pound surveyor spacecraft conrad and bean have intensively rehearsed everything they have to do they'll begin after hiking over from intrepid by taking pictures of the original footprint left by surveyor when it first bounced on the moon and then the second footprint it left when its motor failed to turn off and it jiggled over a few feet away they'll then take pictures of these trenches made in the moon's soil by the tiny scooper on surveyor which was the first man-made device ever to sample the lunar soil after doing that they'll move around to this side of the surveyor spacecraft and using bolt cutters carried aboard conrad will snip off this strut to give scientists back on earth an idea of the erosion effects of the lunar environment on metal

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environment on metal wiping their spacesuit gloves across this reflective thermal covering that'll give scientists an idea of how much lunar dust has accumulated and what micrometeorite hits if any have taken place they'll then move up to the solar panels that powered surveyor and break off a piece of the glass solar cells like this so again the effects of meteorite dust and lunar dust on the surface can be examined they'll put that in a package to bring back with them then the final act they'll do they'll move around to the 18-pound tv camera carried aboard conrad will snip the electrical cables and then snip off these five struts that hold the camera they'll then put the camera in a knapsack carried on conrad's back and begin their hike back to the intrepid spacecraft this is jules bergman abc news at the kennedy space center abc's live coverage of the mission of apollo 12 resumes tonight at 11 30 p.m eastern time and will continue until 4 30 a.m eastern time the abc evening news with frank reynolds in apollo 12 cost many people a few hours of sleep last night perhaps not as much as during apollo 11 but it was worth it there is another cost to the current flight some 350 million dollars all of which leads to a comment howard frank this time national pride in a moon landing is leveled with a certain sadness public interest has not risen to the level that accompanied the first trip to the moon that was inevitable but that means that congress no longer pressed by public interest in space and badly pressed by extensive problems on earth will soon register that falling interest by reducing appropriations after one of the great achievements of all time the space program may face a failure already in anticipation of that a beginning demoralization has appeared in the space agency well there's a way to save the space program and even give it a livelier future than its past that is invite other nations to join the

00:48:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=2881s)

that is invite other nations to join the century's greatest adventure bring their scientists into it join together in creating an orbiting space station create together a reusable spaceship that can ferry men and materials to the moon and back colonize the moon together for scientific purposes all sharing costs and sharing the results starting only with our european allies the cost to each would not be burdensome but the total from all

would add up to enough to go forward with that adventure this beginning the us has made is too promising to be allowed to lag now the way to keep it going is to make it international frank thank you howard that's tonight's news and comment fairly into the sun burning out the picture tube and since then the earth has seen no more pictures from them the camera could revive itself sometimes they do but it's doubtful they find under their feet a black dust that flies everywhere and sticks to everything as fine as black talcum powder and the surface is somewhat different from that found by apollo 11. we did get television pictures from the moon good ones in living color before the camera quit and here's some of what we saw you're coming into the picture okay

00:50:10 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=3010s)

oh they don't sink in too far i'll try pretty well [Laughter] hold stayed in the limb until conrad passed back a collection of rock samples and began setting up the camera tell me if it's clear i'll go work

00:52:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=3121s)

i don't wear goodbye okay here's another camera earth then a long and futile attempt to get the camera working again did you make [Music] later if we have time

00:54:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=3243s)

okay like i said i hope everybody they set up the american flag though it could not be seen tonight just before 1 a.m eastern time conrad and dean will again leave their landing craft to stroll and hop around on the surface of the moon and nbc television will be on with it tonight whether their camera works or not good evening apollo 12 astronauts conrad and dean lifted off from the moon today and rejoined dick gordon in the command module they then sent the moonship intrepid which had carried them safely to the moon and back smashing into the lunar surface its impact about 24 miles from their home base on the ocean of storms registered on space center seismographs giving a reading against which future meteor impact on the moon can be measured earlier mankind was given its first look at a live docking in space before we see those pictures here is a simulation of conrad and bean's second moonwalk you hear the enthusiasm in their voices as they collect rocks and then walk over to the 1967 surveyor and detach his television camera [Music] right here i'd like to grab that rod right there because it's got kind of a sharp edge all the rest of her it's got kind of a bleak edge on him or what

00:56:14 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=3374s)

[Music] houston is about three feet in diameter a two feet thick got a background around it you know what i feel like now you only see those pictures of your ass running in slow motion exactly what i feel like beautiful beautiful sight you know this one's brown and i don't remember i was being brown there at the tape it's got a light tan or maybe that they just changed color what color was this one houston's white what started out that's all white the equipment bays and the primary structure is all painted with a white paint look at it no that's what happened it okay

00:58:03 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=3483s)

and here are the historic first pictures of today's docking walter cronkite and former astronaut wally sharaf are the commentators [Music] this is from the command module of the lunar module ascent stage intrepid [Music] there they go yeah that's got a pitch around there [Music] come here [Music] off the antenna there [Music] we're looking from the right side of the command line is on the left so he's off to the left you'll see this move as if we're going to the right where the center line is really to the left of the screen that's great to see that you see the one looking in the focus from the left hand it's good nice dunk that docking operation

01:00:01 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=3601s)

nice dunk that docking operation and the relaxed atmosphere in which it took place says so much more than mere words about how far we've come in the conquest of space here's something that only a few short years ago would have seemed almost inconceivably complicated and risky yet today conrad bean and gordon found it so routine that they chatted and joked while it was being televised for all of us to see a quarter of a million miles away we'll be reporting the highlights of the rest of this trip home ending with splashdown on monday the supporter cronkite cbs news space center the mission of apollo 12 is several dramatic steps closer to a successful conclusion tonight with astronauts conrad and bean continuing in high good humor the lunar module blasted off the moon's surface this morning into the waiting arms of the mother ship palated by dick gordon a full report on this dramatic day in space from abc's science editor jules bergman after 31 hours and 31 minutes on the moon and two moon walks lasting nearly eight hours conrad and bean blasted off from the moon's surface right on schedule [Music] three and a half hours later after an intricate series of maneuvers intrepid rendezvoused with dick gordon flying the yankee clipper mother ship alone and using a color tv camera in the clipper these docking pictures were sent live back to earth okay good okay yankee clipper will actually perform the

01:02:04 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=3724s)

docking [Music] uh houston go we can see thruster firings now flipper houston here go for fire alarm and stand by to receive the skipper's gig all right look at that [Music] support here a little bit

01:04:10 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=3850s)

okay intrepid was jettisoned and then by remote command sent smashing into the moon's surface to be sure it doesn't cause a future orbital collision with other apollos apollo 12 will orbit the moon another day with the crew filming future apollo landing sites before conrad bean and gordon light up their engine for the trip back to earth late tomorrow this is jules bergman abc news reporting abc's live coverage of the mission of apollo 12 resumes tomorrow afternoon at 4 15 eastern time with another television show from space i'll be back with more news in a moment at 10 minutes after three this afternoon eastern time the apollo 12 astronauts were together again in the command ship yankee clipper 12 minutes after that they cut loose the moon landing ship which had brought them back from the moon after 31 hours on its surface and later in the day that ship the intrepid was sent crashing into the moon to see whether it would cause a seismometer planted there to register on earth conrad and bean had performed everything demanded of them gordon had awaited their return with patience and as they approached the yankee clipper he turned on the television camera which recorded the rendezvous i've seen him [Music]

01:06:07 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=3967s)

[Music] i uh move over to the left a little bit i'll take a picture [Music] all right is okay

01:08:08 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=4088s)

go roger we can see through the window now i'll leave [Music] tomorrow afternoon apollo 12 will fire its main engine for two minutes and nine seconds to take it out of moon orbit and start it back to earth the success of that firing is critical to a safe journey home credit henry cavett lodge the ambassador for earth today dr charles barry the astronaut's physician said that preliminary data indicate that future astronauts may be able to walk on the moon no more than five hours he said that in spite of the comments of conrad and bean that they worked without fatigue their heartbeat rates jumped as high as 170 a minute the slightness of the moon's gravity said makes them unaware of fatigue dick gordon had circled the moon a record 45 times before the trio broke lunar orbit today at more than a mile a second [Music] turned around just like you see but the funny part is the funny part is when you when you're not watching though they'll float off and then you'll hunt for them but the problem is all you're training all your life is to get the hot flow on top of things like on [Music]

01:10:14 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=4214s)

that can't be everybody has helped into zero g real well we enjoy whistling in and out of the limb and uh after having flown eight days in germany it's a real pleasure riding around in this thing being able to move around and have all the good food hot well with that uh i think we'll sign off and uh we'll see you in about three days thanks a million all three of you did a four-hour job and your families and the whole team are waiting for you back down here on the ground there were more developments today in the like many other americans who've had a hard but productive day on the job the apollo 12 astronauts are happily on their way home tonight late this afternoon they blasted themselves out of lunar orbit and a short time later gave us another television show from space abc science editor jules bergman reports the moon minutes after the apollo 12 crew fired up their onboard engine and headed home they'd spent the day filming future landing sites in this live color transmission minutes after heading home they're 3 000 miles high over the moon then they pointed the camera back in the cabin and pete conrad told us about the pinpoint landing he and al bean had made one of the big drills of course throughout all right was to

01:12:02 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hviPHhfAv_o&t=4322s)

throughout all right was to sit down next to the surveyor especially when we stepped outside looked around back sitting right there on the other side of the crater i also gave myself quite a thrill i think you'll appreciate it when you see the pictures and you see how close we landed to the crater apollo 12's crew in perfect shape headed toward a pacific splashdown late monday afternoon this is jules bergman abc news reporting today's fact yesterday's science fiction hollywood is having a hard time keeping ahead of the joneses the von braun [Music]

END